## Message Text

## CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MOSCOW 00573 131636Z ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAJ-01 OMB-01 ACDA-07 IO-13 TRSE-00 /080 W

-----131721Z 031666 /41

R 131543Z JAN 77

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3040

INFO AMCONSUL CALGARY

AMCONSUL HALIFAX

AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL MONTREAL

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMCONSUL QUEBEC

AMCONSUL TORONOT

AMCONSUL VANCOUVER

AMCONSUL WINNIPEG

AMCONSUL ST JOHNS

CONFIDENTIAL MOSCOW 0573

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CN, UR, US

SUBJECT: SOVIET DESIRES TO SEE CONTINUATION OF UNIFIED CANADA

REF: MOSCOW 0050,

- 1. SUMMARY. CANADIAN EMBASSY COUNSELOR BELIEVES SOVIETS NOT SYMPATHETIC TO SEPARATIST SOLUTION FOR CANADA. END SUMMARY.
- 2. DURING POL COUNSELOR'S JAN 12 CALL ON CANADIAN COUNTERPART LOOYE LATTER WAS ASKED HOW SOVIETS WERE TREATING CONFIDENTIAL

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PQ SEPARATIST ISSUE. LOOYE REPLIED THAT SOVIET PRESS TREATMENT AND OFFICIALS' COMMENT SUPPORT PRESERVATION OF UNITED CANADA AND DOWNPLAY SEPARATIST THREAT. HE SPECULATED THAT SOVIETS GENUINELY FAVOR A UNITED CANADA BECAUSE, NOTWITHSTANDING ITS NATO AND NORAD MEMBERSHIP, IN CERTAIN RESPECTS IT ACTS AS A COUNTERWEIGHT TO U.S. AND FORBIDS EMPLOYMENT OF NUCLEAR MISSILES ON

CANADIAN SOIL. TO THE SOVIETS, FRAGMENTATION OF CANADA RAISES THE SPECTOR OF SEVERAL PROVINCES FALLING SO FAR UNDER U.S. INFLUENCE AS TO PERMIT EMPLACEMENT OF NUCLEAR MISSILES ON THEIR TERRITORY

3. CANADIANS ALSO REPORT THAT DURING NEW YEAR'S PARTY THROWN BY MFA SECOND EUROPEAN DEPARTMENT (U.K. AND "OLD COMMONWEALTH") FOR ITS MOSCOW DIPLOMATIC CLIENTELE, DEPARTMENT CHIEF SUSLOV AND OTHER FUNCTIONARIES HAD SINGLED OUT CANADIANS FOR SPECIAL ATTENTION, WITH MULTIPLE REFERENCES TO "POSITIVE TRENDS" IN BILATERAL RELATIONSHIP. THEY MADE PARTICULAR POINTS OFNOTING THAT BREZHNEV HAD INCLUDED TRUDEAU AMONG VERY FEW FOREIGN LEADERS TO WHOM HE HAD ADDRESSED NEW YEAR'S GREETINGS, AND TO SEPARATE BILLING FOR CANADA IN LAST FEBRUARY'S 25TH CPSU CONGRESS REPORT.

4. COMMENT: CANADIANS' COMMENTS ADD ADDITIONAL DIMENSION TO WHAT WE, AND THEY, HAVE BEEN SEEING IN RECENT PRESS TREATMENT OF CANADA. MOST RECENTLY, PROBABLY TIMED TO COINCIDE WITH THE BREZHNEV NEW YEAR GREETING, PRAVDA CARRIED INTERVIEW JAN 2 OF CANADIAN PM TRUDEAU PROTRAYING HIM IN FAVORABLE LIGHT AND PUTTING EMPHASIS ON POSITIVE IN SOVIET-CANADIAN RELATIONS (REFTEL). INTERVIEWER N. BRAGIN USED EXTENSIVE QUOTES OF TRUDEAU TO SHOW EXPECTATIONS OF EVEN BETTER RELATIONS WITH MOSCOW FOR 1977 AND TO GET IN MENTION (RARE IN DOMESTIC PRESS) THAT TRUDEAU, AT LEAST, IS LOOKING FOR VISITS "AT THE HIGHEST LEVELS" FOR THE COMING YEAR. ALSO, CONFIDENTIAL

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RECENT PQ VICTORY IN PROVINCIAL ELECTIONS IN QUEBEC
GOT STRAIGHTFORWARD COVERAGE IN SOVIET PRESS, BUT
ABSENCE OF ANY FOLLOWUP IN WEEKS FOLLOWING SUGGESTS
THE SOVIETS ARE NOT INTERESTED IN BUILDING UP PQ IMAGE.
FINALLY, OUR CANADIAN COLLEAGUES' REMARKS ABOUT SOVIET
CONCERN OVER U.S. INFLUENCE HARKEN BACK TO SPATE OF ARTICLES
OF SEVERAL MONTHS AGO PRIOR TO PQ VICTORY, WHICH PLAYED
ON THEME THAT U.S. WAS AT FAULT FOR MUCH OF CANADIAN ECONOMIC
WOES AND U.S. CORPORATIONS WERE INFILTRATING CANADA AND
UNDERMINING CANADIAN NATIONAL SOVEREIGNTY.

TOON

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	Margaret P. Grafeld	Declassified/Released	US Department of State	EO Systematic Review	22 May 2009
NNN					

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